



City of Alexandria

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MARCH 9, 2002

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

THROUGH: PHILIP SUNDERLAND, CITY MANAGER 

FROM: BERNARD CATON, LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR 

SUBJECT: FINAL STATUS REPORT (NO. 4) ON LEGISLATION INTRODUCED AT THE 2002 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION

ISSUE: Status report (No. 4) on legislation introduced at the 2002 General Assembly Session.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council receive this report.

DISCUSSION: The 2002 General Assembly Session, which began on January 9, adjourned March 9. During the Session nearly 2100 bills were considered, and less than half of these (approximately 900) passed.¹ By April 8, the Governor must review each bill and approve it, veto it, or recommend specific amendments for the General Assembly's consideration at the reconvened (veto) Session, which will be held on April 17. Attachment 1 shows the final status of legislation on which the City has taken a position.

City Package. The following bills from the City Package have been approved by the General Assembly and now await the Governor's signature.

- SB 130 and HB 1061 (identical bills), which allow local departments of social services to proceed more quickly in placing a child for adoption or in permanent foster care if the court determines that reunification is inadvisable because seriously harmful behavior toward the child (e.g., abandonment, torture, chronic abuse, sexual abuse) has occurred.
- SB 219 and HB 1043 (identical bills), which require local social service departments to

¹ The General Assembly also considered over 800 resolutions, which generally commend someone, memorialize someone who has died, or seek to create a legislative study.

perform criminal history and child abuse records checks in any case in which the department is considering placing a child with an adult (including returning a child to a birth parent) on an emergency, temporary, or permanent basis. Background checks may also be required for all adults residing in the household where the child is to be placed. SB 210 was also incorporated into this legislation.

- SB 211, which (1) expands the membership of the Alexandria Historical Restoration and Preservation Commission, and (2) amends the definition of “Restoration Period” as it applies to the Commission’s activities².
- SB 220, which amends the City Charter to (1) give Council authority to reduce the size of the Board of the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority to 7 members; and (2) set the initial meeting date for a new Council on the first business day following July 1 if July 1 falls on a Saturday or Sunday.
- SB 685, which will allow the City to assess and tax parcels of one-quarter acre or more as open space.
- HB 1030, which will allow cities to assess fines of up to \$200 for speeding in residential areas.
- HB 1060, which requires the State Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, upon the City’s request, to suspend the license of an individual convicted of driving while intoxicated (DWI), until that person has reimbursed the City for its emergency response costs related to the DWI incident.

The following three bills were carried over to the 2003 Session:

- HB 130, which would allow any city or town to use up to six percent of its urban system construction allocation in any year for traffic calming projects or devices.
- HB 1025, which would have created a refundable State earned income tax credit for individuals qualifying for the federal earned income tax credit, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2002.
- SB 129, which would provide for up to 24 months of transitional child care for persons who are making the transition out of the TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) program.

The following bill was defeated.

²The amendment changes “restoration period” from the period beginning with the founding of the City and ending in 1860, to anything prior to the last 50 years.

- SB 128 Hate crimes. Would have added gender, physical disability and sexual orientation to the categories of acts classified as hate crimes.

Local Authority Over Weapons. SB 593 was introduced by Senator Emmett Hanger to prohibit any locality (after January 1, 1987) from adopting any resolution, motion, administrative rule, or regulation governing the possession, carrying, transfer, or ownership of firearms. Localities are already prohibited from adopting ordinances for these purposes.

Alexandria has an administrative regulation adopted by the City Manager in 1995 (and later affirmed by Council), that prohibits weapons of any kind in any city workplace. The purpose of this regulation is to help ensure the safety of the City's work force, as well as the safety of the general public. Under the City's regulation, if someone enters an Alexandria workplace (e.g., City Hall or one of the recreation centers) with a concealed weapon, the City can ask the person to leave and stay off the property as long as he has the weapon. If the person refuses to leave, the City charges him with trespass.

The City believes that this procedure is a reasonable one to protect the safety of the work force and the public. When the regulation was challenged in Court several years ago, the City regulation was upheld. The City believes that it, like private employers, should be able to adopt reasonable policies to protect its workers.

The purpose of SB 593 was to overturn the City regulation, as well as similar regulations in other localities. The City opposed this legislation as introduced. The bill's patron agreed to amendments in the Senate that would have preserved the City Manager's authority over weapons at City work sites.

When the bill was considered in House Committee, it was amended so that the City Manager could prohibit City employees only, and not the public, from bringing weapons onto City work sites. Following unsuccessful attempts at further amendments (to further weaken the City's authority), the General Assembly approved the bill with the House amendment (i.e., the City's authority over weapons would be limited to making rules for its employees only). This legislation will now go to the Governor for his consideration.

Legislation to Increase the Sales Tax for Transportation, Education, or Both. One of the last issues to be determined by the 2002 Session was whether to allow Northern Virginians to determine whether to increase the sales tax and earmark the resulting revenues for transportation, education, or both.

SB 170 (Colgan) was amended on the next to last day of Session to provide for a November 2002 referendum on a one cent increase in the sales tax in Northern Virginia (Planning District 8). Half the revenue would be used for regional transportation projects. Of the remaining half, which would be used for operating or capital education needs, 80 percent would be retained by the locality and 20 percent would be put in a special fund and distributed to the State's most needy school divisions for local education needs. Alexandria would receive about \$8 million in new education funds if this additional sales tax had been approved. The transportation project list was also amended to earmark

more money for transit, including almost \$20 million for DASH. Unfortunately, this legislation (together with SB 692, identical legislation introduced by Senator Saslaw) died in the House of Delegates during the final minutes of Session, since a majority of the Delegates refused to allow its consideration.

SB 668 was approved. It authorizes the Hampton Roads localities to decide, in a November referendum, whether to increase the sales tax in that region by one cent, and use the new revenues for transportation projects.

State Budget. The General Assembly enacted a State budget for the next biennium, as well as amendments to the current biennial budget. Attachment 2 is a chart summarizing staff's understanding of many of the budget's impacts on State aid funding to the City. Staff will address these reductions in greater detail during the consideration of the City's proposed FY 03 budget.

State budget amendments did not address allocations of State transportation funds, but this is an additional area where the City expects to lose significant funds in future years. The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has advised cities and towns that they can expect their "urban" funds to be reduced by nearly half for the next 6 years. The City receives approximately \$8 million annually in urban funds. VDOT is expected to give the City more specific information on these reductions in the near future.

Car Tax Audits. The adopted budget also establishes a process to prevent people from receiving car tax relief for business vehicles. The process includes a requirement whereby vehicle owners would have to submit, and City staff process, an annual written certification for each vehicle for which the tax relief is sought. The budget also creates a Personal Property Tax Relief Compliance Task Force, composed of state and local government representatives, to design a taxpayer compliance program. Various portions of the implementation language for these programs are ambiguous, but could be burdensome to the public and very costly (in terms of new staff) for local governments. Staff at VML is looking at this language very carefully and will likely ask the Governor to recommend amendments to it.

STAFF:

Bernard Caton, Legislative Director
Michele Evans, Assistant City Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1 - Final Status of Bills on Which the City Has Taken a Position – March 9, 2001

Attachment 2 – Items of Concern to the City of Alexandria – State Budget – March 9, 2002

Final Status of Bills on Which the City Has Taken a Position March 9, 2002

HB 25 Juvenile not guilty by reason of insanity.

Summary as introduced:

Juvenile not guilty by reason of insanity. Recognizes the finding of "not guilty by reason of insanity" for a child charged with a delinquent act in juvenile court proceedings. The bill closely parallels the adult statute on not guilty by reason of insanity. If the court finds a child not guilty, and the child poses an unreasonable risk to the community, the court may commit the child to the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services for treatment. If the child does not pose a risk, the court may refer the child as one in need of services to the local family assessment and planning team for services under the Comprehensive Services Act for At-Risk Youth and Families. The bill adds such children to the mandated service pool under the Act.

This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Bar Association, which was requested by the General Assembly (see HJR 680, 1999) to review this area of the law. See also *Commonwealth v. Chapman*, 30 Va. App, 593, 601, 518 S.E.2d 847, 851 (1999) rev'd Virginia Supreme Court, November 3, 2000, Record No. 992706, where the Supreme Court held that the insanity defense is not available to juveniles absent specific statutory authority.

Patrons: Darner and McDonnell; *Senators:* Mims and Trumbo

02/04/02 House: Continued to 2003 in Courts of Justice (22-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Support.

HB 36 Constitutional amendment; property tax exemptions.

Summary as introduced:

Constitutional amendment (voter referendum); property tax exemptions. Provides for a referendum at the November 5, 2002, election to approve or reject an amendment allowing local governing bodies to grant tax exemptions for property used for charitable and certain other purposes by local ordinance subject to restrictions and conditions provided by general law enacted by the General Assembly. The present Constitution allows the General Assembly to exempt such property by classification or by designation by a three-fourths vote in each house. See, also, HJR 13, companion resolution.

Patrons: Howell, Dudley and McQuigg

03/01/02 Senate: Passed Senate (40-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Oppose.

HB 42 Social services; auxiliary grants program.

Summary as introduced:

Social services; auxiliary grants. Makes the auxiliary grants program completely state-funded by eliminating the local share of the program.

Patrons: Hamilton and Brink

02/06/02 House: Continued to 2003 in Appropriations (25-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Support.

HB 70 Correctional facilities, local; medical costs for prisoners.

Summary as introduced:

Corrections; medical costs. Requires the state, in its annual appropriation to local correctional facilities, to compensate localities for two-thirds of the extraordinary medical costs incurred for treatment provided to state-responsible inmates. Such costs will be determined by the excess over the average medical cost per inmate day as determined by the Compensation Board.

Patron: Jones, J.C.

02/04/02 House: Continued to 2003 in Appropriations (25-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Support.

HB 86 Sales & Use Tax; definition of food.

Summary as introduced:

Sales tax reduction program on food; definition of food. Excludes from the definition of food, for purposes of the sales tax reduction program, food sold by any retailer where the gross receipts derived from the sale of food prepared by such retailer for immediate consumption on or off the premises constitutes more than 80 percent of the total gross receipts of that retail establishment.

Patron: Orrock

02/18/02 Governor: Approved by Governor-Chapter 13 (effective 7/1/02)

Notes: City position: Support.

HB 110 Transportation Revenue Bond Act of 2002; created.

Summary as introduced:

Commonwealth of Virginia Transportation Revenue Bond Act of 2002. Authorizes the Commonwealth Transportation Board to issue revenue bonds in the principal amount not to exceed \$1 billion with the proceeds to be used for an electronic communication infrastructure project to aid telecommuting and ease traffic congestion and other specified transportation projects. The bill funds the bonds by dedicating one-third of the annual revenues from the insurance license tax.

Patron: Marshall, R.G.

02/08/02 House: Continued to 2003 in Appropriations (25-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Oppose.

HB 121 Clustering of dwellings.

Summary as introduced:

Clustering of dwellings. Requires localities to include in their subdivision and zoning ordinances provisions allowing the clustering of single-family detached dwellings on lots of lesser size so as to preserve open space. No ordinance shall require that a special use permit be obtained for such clustering.

Patron: Hull

01/09/02 House: Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns

02/01/02 House: Incorporated in C.C.T. (HB346-Albo) (19-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Oppose.

HB 122 Potomac Region Transportation Development Authority; created.

Summary as introduced:

Potomac Region Transportation Development Authority. Creates the Potomac Region Transportation Development Authority, representing the Counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William, and the Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas, and Manassas Park. The Authority is empowered to issue bonds in accordance with applicable law, including the issuance of bonds and other evidences of debt, in order to finance or assist in the financing of transportation projects undertaken pursuant to the Public-Private Transportation Act of 1995 (§ 56-556 et seq.) within one or more of the Potomac Region localities represented in the Authority.

Patron: Hull

01/18/02 House: Referred to Committee on Transportation

02/09/02 House: Continued to 2003 in Tra. (21-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Oppose.

HB 175 Uniform Statewide Building Code; use of "slag."

Summary as introduced:

Uniform Statewide Building Code; use of "slag." Directs the Board of Housing and Community Development to adopt regulations prohibiting the use of slag as a fill material in construction. The bill defines "slag" as the nonmetallic byproduct from the production of iron ore.

Patron: Woodrum

01/24/02 House: Continued to 2003 in General Laws (22-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Support.

HB 180 Funding of local health departments.

Summary as introduced:

Funding of local health departments. Requires, notwithstanding any other provision of law or regulation to the contrary, the Board of Health to include, in any agreement with any county or city for the operation of its health department or any funding allocation for any independent local health department, a stipulation for the Commonwealth to assume, on a phased-in basis, the full costs of such services and operations of the various local health departments as are required by state law. The Board's funding allocations must provide for such yearly incremental increases to reach 100 percent state funding of all required local health department services and operations over a five-year period, beginning on July 1, 2003, and ending on June 30, 2007.

Patron: Bryant

01/09/02 House: Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

01/29/02 House: Continued to 2003 in H. W. I. (22-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Support.

HB 206 Adequate public facilities.

Summary as introduced:

Adequate public facilities. Provides that in any high-growth locality, a zoning ordinance may

include reasonable provisions allowing the locality to determine whether public facilities are adequate to support the services that will be required under the new zoning classification. Approval of a proposed rezoning may be made contingent upon a finding by the governing body of adequate public facilities. However, such locality's comprehensive plan shall clearly identify public facility needs in a given area prior to disapproval of such zoning request.

Patrons: Cole, Howell and Orrock

01/09/02 House: Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns

01/25/02 House: Passed by indefinitely in C. C. T. (19-Y 3-N)

Notes: City position: Support.

HB 207 Adequate public facilities.

Summary as introduced:

Adequate public facilities. Provides that in any high-growth locality, a subdivision ordinance may include reasonable provisions allowing the locality to determine whether public facilities are adequate to support the services that will be required by a new subdivision. Approval of a proposed subdivision may be made contingent upon a finding by the governing body of adequate public facilities. However, such locality's comprehensive plan shall clearly identify public facility needs in a given area prior to disapproval of such subdivision request.

Patrons: Cole and Howell

01/09/02 House: Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns

01/25/02 House: Passed by indefinitely in C. C. T. (19-Y 3-N)

Notes: City position: Support.

HB 210 Stalking; penalty.

Summary as introduced:

Stalking; penalty. Conduct that is prohibited for the purposes of stalking is expanded to include repeatedly maintaining a visual or close physical proximity to a person or repeatedly conveying oral or written threats, threats implied by conduct or a combination of threats and conduct directed at a person and also means to annoy or alarm another person, communicating by mechanical or electronic means or otherwise with that person, communicating by telephone, telegraph, mail or any other form of written communication, communicating via computer, use of computer networking, electronic mail, and utilizing the Internet to gain unauthorized access to personal, medical, financial or other identifying information.

Patron: O'Bannon

02/04/02 House: Continued to 2003 in Courts of Justice (22-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Support.

HB 220 Assault and battery against a family or household member; penalty.

Summary as introduced:

Assault and battery against a family or household member; penalty. Allows Class 6 felony punishment of a person convicted of three or more family assaults if the assaults involve two or more different victims. Currently, enhanced punishment is only made applicable when the assaults occur on different dates.

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Patron: Carrico

02/20/02 Senate: Continued to 2003 in Courts of Justice (12-Y 3-N)

02/20/02 Senate: Refer to Virginia Crime Commission

Notes: City position: Support.

HB 245 Residential Landlord Tenant Act; abandonment of premises.

Summary as passed House:

Virginia Residential Landlord Tenant Act; abandonment. Establishes a process to be followed by the landlord if he is unable to determine whether a tenant has abandoned the premises.

Patrons: Drake, Athey, Dudley and Purkey

03/06/02 Senate: Passed Senate with amendments (40-Y 0-N)

03/07/02 House: Senate amendments agreed to by House (64-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Oppose.

HB 246 Residential Landlord Tenant Act; disposal of abandoned property.

Summary as passed House:

Virginia Residential Landlord Tenant Act; disposal of property abandoned by tenants.

Allows a landlord to dispose of abandoned personal property after the rental agreement has terminated and delivery of possession has occurred provided the landlord gives certain notice to the tenant.

Patrons: Drake, Athey, Dudley and Purkey

03/06/02 Senate: Passed Senate (40-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Oppose.

HB 271 Outdoor lighting standards and regulations; establishment.

Summary as introduced:

Local outdoor lighting standards and regulations. Grants all localities authority to establish by ordinance outdoor lighting standards and regulations for the purpose of controlling exterior illumination levels, incidence of glare, light trespass or urban sky-glow, or for the purpose of conserving energy.

Patrons: Callahan, Amundson, Cosgrove, Devolites, Plum, Scott and Watts; Senators: Byrne, Howell, Puller and Ticer

01/09/02 House: Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns

02/01/02 House: Continued to 2003 in C. C. T. (20-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Support.

HB 317 BPOL tax appeals.

Summary as passed House:

BPOL tax appeals. Allows a person assessed with a license tax to apply within one year, instead of 90 days, from the last day of the tax year for which the assessment is made or within one year from the date of the appealable event, whichever is later, to the assessor for a correction. Also allows any person assessed with a local license tax as a result of a determination that is adverse to

such person to apply within 90 days to the Tax Commissioner for a correction. The bill also allows any person assessed with a local license tax who has filed an application with a local assessing officer and has not received a final determination within two years of such filing, at his option upon not less than 30 days written notice to the assessor, to treat such lack of action as an adverse determination and seek review of the assessment by the Tax Commissioner. An "appealable event" means an increase in the local license tax assessment payable by a taxpayer, the denial of a refund, or the assessment of a local license tax where none was previously assessed.

Patron: Howell

02/22/02 Senate: Passed Senate (40-Y 0-N)

03/05/02 House: Bill text as passed House and Senate (HB317ER)

Notes: City position: Oppose.

HB 318 Taxation; local business tax appeals.

Summary as passed House:

Taxation; local business tax appeals. Extends the time for taxpayers seeking initial review of the assessment of business taxes by the local assessing officer from 90 days to one year from the last day of the tax year for which such assessment is made or from the date of an appealable event. An "appealable event" means an increase in the local license tax assessment payable by a taxpayer, the denial of a refund, or the assessment of a local license tax where none was previously assessed. In addition, any taxpayer whose application for a correction of assessment has been denied may apply within 90 days to the Tax Commissioner for correction. The bill also permits a taxpayer to seek review from the Tax Commissioner without a final determination from the local assessing officer if the taxpayer's application for correction to the local assessing officer has been pending for more than two years without a final determination.

Patron: Howell

02/26/02 House: Senate amendments agreed to by House (98-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Oppose.

HB 321 Retirement System; retirement allowance.

Summary as introduced:

Virginia Retirement System. Increases the retirement allowance for all state and local members of the Virginia Retirement System by increasing the percentage of average final compensation that is multiplied by the amount of creditable service (i) from two percent to 2.5 percent for certain members of the Virginia Law Officers' Retirement System who are not eligible for the supplemental allowance and (ii) from 1.7 percent to two percent for all others.

Patrons: Callahan, McQuigg and Nutter

02/01/02 House: Continued to 2003 in Appropriations (25-Y 0-N)

Notes: City Position: Oppose.

HB 346 Clustering of single-family dwellings so as to preserve open space.

Summary as passed House:

Clustering of single-family dwellings so as to preserve open space. Provides that a locality may provide in its zoning or subdivision ordinance standards, conditions and criteria for clustering

of single-family dwellings and the preservation of open space developments. In establishing such standards, conditions and criteria, the governing body may include any provisions it determines appropriate to ensure quality development, preservation of open space and compliance with its comprehensive plan and land use ordinances. If proposals for clustering of single-family dwellings and the preservation of open space developments comply with the locality's adopted standards, conditions and criteria, the development and open space preservation shall be permitted by right under the local subdivision ordinance. The implementation and approval of the cluster development and open space preservation shall be done administratively by the locality's staff and without a public hearing. No local ordinance shall require that a special exception, special use, or conditional use permit be obtained for such developments. In any instance where the proposed density is greater than the density permitted in the applicable land use ordinance, the locality may continue to require approval of a special exception, special use permit, conditional use permit or rezoning. Localities that currently provide for clustering of single-family dwellings upon approval of a special exception shall have until July 1, 2004, to comply with the provisions of this bill.

Patron: Albo

03/05/02 House: Senate amendment agreed to by House (91-Y 7-N)

Notes: Seek amendment to have small cluster developments exempted from the provisions of this legislation.

HB 371 Local E-911 tax; allowable exemption.

Summary as introduced:

Local E-911 tax; allowable exemption. Allows the local governing body to exempt subscribers 65 years of age and older from the local E-911 tax.

Patrons: Cole, Athey, Johnson and Lingamfelter

01/28/02 House: Continued to 2003 in Finance (22-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Oppose.

HB 378 Municipal elections; option for November council elections.

Summary as passed House:

Municipal elections; option for November council elections. Provides that cities and towns may shift to November elections held in either odd-numbered or even-numbered years.

Patron: Van Yahres

02/22/02 Governor: Approved by Governor-Chapter 30 (effective 7/1/02)

Notes: Seek to have legislation amended so that it does not apply to any localities whose Charter provides for elections in odd-numbered years (such as the City).

HB 423 "Photo-red" traffic light signal enforcement programs.

Summary as introduced:

"Photo-red" traffic light signal enforcement programs. Allows any county, city, or town to have a "photo-red" traffic light signal enforcement program. No such program shall be instituted solely to generate revenue. Certain functions hitherto authorized to be performed by technicians or employees must now be performed by law-enforcement officers. Photo-monitoring system cameras may not record the image of a vehicle proceeding legally through an intersection during

the green phase of a signal, unless the image appears incidental to the recorded image of a vehicle illegally entering an intersection during the red phase of a signal. When selecting intersections for a traffic light signal violation photo-monitoring system, localities must consider factors such as the accident rate for the intersection, the number of red light violations occurring at the intersection, the difficulty experienced by law-enforcement officers in patrol cars or on foot in apprehending violators and the ability of law-enforcement officers to apprehend violators safely within a reasonable distance of the violation. The timing of the yellow phase of the signal at intersections being monitored must meet or exceed the minimum time recommended by the Institute of Transportation Engineers. Localities that use photo-monitoring systems must place conspicuous signs indicating this at or near the boundary of the locality on all primary highways. Prior to or coincident with implementation or expansion of a "photo-red" program, a locality must implement a public awareness program. The July 1, 2005, "sunset" on "photo-red" programs is repealed.

Patrons: McQuigg, Lingamfelter and Van Yahres

01/09/02 House: Referred to Committee on Militia, Police and Public Safety

02/01/02 House: Passed by indefinitely in M., P. & P. S. (12-Y 9-N)

Notes: City position: Support.

HB 464 Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; terms of rental agreement.

Summary as introduced:

Virginia Residential Landlord Tenant Act; required terms and conditions of rental agreement. Requires a landlord to provide a written notice, signed by the tenant as a separate part of the rental agreement, that the landlord provides no insurance coverage for the loss of the tenant's personal property and other possessions or any relocation costs in the event of a natural or man-made disaster. "Natural disaster" is defined as any hurricane, tornado, storm, flood, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, earthquake, drought, fire or other natural catastrophe resulting in damage, hardship, suffering or possible loss of life. "Man-made disaster" is defined as any condition following an attack by any enemy or foreign nation upon the United States resulting in substantial damage of property or injury to persons in the United States.

Patrons: Suit, Cosgrove and Welch

01/23/02 House: Engrossment refused by House

Notes: City position: Support.

HB 505 Suspension without pay for fighters, EMTs, etc.

Summary as introduced:

Suspension without pay. Provides that in no case shall a suspension without pay of a law-enforcement officer, firefighter or emergency medical technician continue for more than 90 days pending completion of the hearing process.

Patrons: Drake, Cosgrove, Devolites, Joannou, Purkey and Rapp

01/09/02 House: Referred to Committee on Militia, Police and Public Safety

02/01/02 House: Continued to 2003 in M., P. & P. S. (21-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Oppose.

HB 506 Investigations of law-enforcement officers and firefighters.

Summary as introduced:

Right to counsel during investigations of law-enforcement officers and firefighters. Provides that during investigation or interrogation, law-enforcement officers, firefighters and emergency medical technicians shall have the right to be represented by counsel at all stages of the proceedings.

Patrons: Drake, Cosgrove, Devolites, Hall, Joannou, Marshall, D.W., Purkey and Rapp

01/09/02 House: Referred to Committee on Militia, Police and Public Safety

02/07/02 House: Continued to 2003 in M.,P. & P. S. (22-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Oppose.

HB 514 Library systems that access the Internet as a non-public forum.

Summary as introduced:

Library systems that access the Internet as a non-public forum. Declares that any public-owned system that accesses the Internet is a non-public forum and affords library boards and governing bodies authority to take the steps necessary to limit library access to the Internet.

Patron: Marrs

01/09/02 House: Referred to Committee on Science and Technology

02/04/02 House: Continued to 2003 in S.T. (18-Y 3-N)

Notes: City Position: Oppose.

HB 529 Freedom of Information Act; record exemptions.

Summary as introduced:

Freedom of Information Act; record exemptions. Adds a records exemption for those portions of records containing identifying information of a personal, medical or financial nature provided to a public body where the release of such information would jeopardize the safety of any person. This exemption is similar to the exemption currently available to law-enforcement agencies.

Patron: Devolites

01/31/02 House: Stricken from docket by General Laws (22-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Support.

HB 603 Notice of rezoning.

Summary as introduced:

Notice of rezoning. Requires all rezoning notices to be sent by registered or certified mail at least 21 days, rather than five days, prior to the public hearing. Currently, if a proposed zoning amendment involves more than 25 parcels of land, the notice may be sent by first-class mail.

Patrons: Black, Albo, Cole, Gear and Marshall, R.G.

01/09/02 House: Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns

02/06/02 House: Incorporated in C.C.T. (HB477-Suit) (17-Y 0-N)

Notes: City Position: Oppose.

HB 658 Criminal background check; substance abuse treatment professionals.

Summary as passed House:

Criminal background check; substance abuse treatment professionals. Permits community services boards, behavioral health authorities and agencies licensed by the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services to hire for adult substance abuse treatment programs persons who were convicted of a broader list of crimes: a misdemeanor violation relating to (i) unlawful hazing as set out in § 18.2-56; (ii) reckless handling of a firearm as set out in § 18.2-56.1; any misdemeanor or felony violation related to (a) reckless endangerment of others by throwing objects as set out in § 18.2-51.3; (b) threat as set out in § 18.2-60; (c) burglary as set out in § 18.2-89; (d) breaking and entering a dwelling house with intent to commit other misdemeanor as set out in § 18.2-92; or (e) possession of burglarious tools as set out in § 18.2-94; or any felony violation relating to the distribution of drugs as set out in Article 1 (§ 18.2-247 et seq.) of Chapter 7 of Title 18.2, except an offense pursuant to subsection H or I of § 18.2-248; or an equivalent offense in another state. The hiring provider must determine that the criminal behavior was related to the applicant's use of substances, and that the person has been successfully rehabilitated.

Patrons: Devolites and Christian

02/28/02 House: Senate substitute agreed to by House (94-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Support.

HB 693 Local ordinances incorporating state laws.

Summary as introduced:

Local ordinances incorporating state laws relating to operation of motor vehicles; disposition of fines imposed for violations. Provides that fines imposed for violations of local ordinances incorporating provisions of the Code of Virginia relating to operation of motor vehicles must be deposited into the Literary Fund (and not into the treasury of the county, city, or town) when the violations are committed on interstate highways.

Patron: Tata

01/09/02 House: Referred to Committee on Transportation

02/05/02 House: Passed by indefinitely in Tra. (17-Y 5-N)

Notes: City Position: Oppose.

HB 700 Freedom of Information; exemptions relating to terrorism.

Summary as passed House:

Freedom of Information; exemptions relating to terrorism. Provides a record exemption from FOIA for (i) plans to prevent or respond to terrorist activity, to the extent such records set forth specific tactics, or specific security or emergency procedures, the disclosure of which would jeopardize the safety of governmental personnel or the general public, or the security of any governmental facility, building, structure or information storage system; and (ii) engineering and architectural drawings, operational, procedural, tactical planning or training manuals, or staff meeting minutes or other records, the disclosure of which would reveal surveillance techniques, personnel deployments, alarm or security systems or technologies, or operational and transportation plans or protocols, to the extent such disclosure would jeopardize the security of any governmental facility, building or structure or the safety of persons using such facility,

building or structure. The bill also expands the open meeting exemption to provide that a public body may convene a closed meeting for the discussion of plans to protect public safety as it relates to terrorist activity and briefings by staff members or legal counsel concerning actions taken to respond to such activity or a related threat to public safety. The bill also authorizes the custodian of public records to require a requester of records to provide his name and legal address. The bill contains a technical amendment.

Patron: Jones, S.C.

02/25/02 Senate: Passed Senate (38-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Support.

HB 757 Workers' compensation; infectious disease presumption.

Summary as passed House:

Workers' compensation; infectious disease presumption. Creates a presumption that hepatitis, meningococcal meningitis, tuberculosis or HIV causing the death or disability of firefighters, paramedics, emergency medical technicians, members of the State Police Officers' Retirement System, members of county, city or town police departments, sheriffs and deputy sheriffs, city sergeants or deputy city sergeants of the City of Richmond, Virginia Marine Patrol officers, certain game wardens, and Capitol Police officers who are exposed to blood or body fluids are occupational diseases for the purposes of workers' compensation.

Patrons: Amundson, Brink, Callahan, Darner, Dillard, Kilgore, McQuigg, Plum, Spruill, Van Landingham and Watts; *Senators:* Byrne, Howell and Puller

03/06/02 House: Senate amendment agreed to by House (88-Y 10-N)

Notes: Oppose in current form; monitor amendments and reconsider position if amended.

HB 785 ABC; sale of singles.

Summary as introduced: **ABC; sale of singles.** Allows localities by ordinance to regulate the sale of single units of alcoholic beverages purchased for consumption off-premises.

Patrons: Jones, D.C. and Baskerville

01/29/02 House: Tabled in General Laws (22-Y 0-N)

Notes: City Position: Support.

HB 814 Labor unions; abstention requirement.

Summary as introduced:

Labor unions; abstention requirement. Prohibits employers from requiring a person to abstain or refrain from holding office in a labor union or labor organization as a condition of gaining or continuing employment.

Patrons: Almand, Amundson, Brink, Callahan, Darner, Hull, Parrish, Plum and Van Landingham

02/28/02 Senate: Passed Senate (40-Y 0-N)

Notes: City Position: Support.

HB 839 Thermal Imaging Camera Advisory Board and Fund.

Summary as passed House:

Thermal Imaging Camera Advisory Board and Fund. Establishes the Thermal Imaging

Camera Fund administered by the Department of Fire Programs to assist local fire departments, other fire services organizations and local governments to purchase thermal imaging cameras.

Patrons: Thomas, Abbitt, Amundson, Armstrong, Barlow, Bland, Bloxom, Councill, Cox, Dudley, Jones, S.C., Keister, Kilgore, Parrish, Phillips, Pollard, Rapp, Sherwood, Shuler and Woodrum

03/04/02 House: Senate amendment agreed to by House (99-Y 0-N)

Notes: City Position: Support.

HB 842 Uniform Statewide Building Code; expiration of permits.

Summary as introduced:

Uniform Statewide Building Code; expiration of permits. Provides that permits issued under the Uniform Statewide Building Code are valid for one year from the date of issuance. Under the bill, requests for extension of the permit must be received within 30 days after the expiration date and be reviewed by the local building official prior to an extension being granted. No extension may be granted by the local building official after three years from the date of the original issuance of the permit.

Patron: Drake

01/31/02 House: Tabled in General Laws (22-Y 0-N)

Notes: City Position: Oppose.

HB 952 Concealed handguns; restricted in restaurants.

Summary as introduced:

Concealed handguns. Prohibits the carrier of a concealed handgun in a public place to consume alcohol or be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs and eliminates the restriction on licensed, concealed handguns in restaurants that serve alcohol.

Patrons: Ware, Athey, Black, Cole, Janis and Wright

01/09/02 House: Referred to Committee on Militia, Police and Public Safety

02/08/02 House: Stricken from docket by M., P. & P. S. (21-Y 1-N)

Notes: City position: Oppose.

HB 960 Insurance; Fire Programs Fund.

Summary as introduced:

Insurance; Fire Programs Fund. Increases from one to three percent, the amount of the annual assessment against all licensed insurance companies doing business in Virginia for the Fire Programs Fund. The bill provides that this increased assessment shall only be effective for five years. The bill also (i) provides that the Fund shall be used to provide staffing to meet national standards for homeland defense, (ii) increases from \$10,000 to \$30,000 the minimum amount an eligible city or county may receive from the Fund, (iii) increases from \$4,000 to \$12,000 the minimum amount an eligible town may receive from the Fund, and (iv) requires that certain moneys from the Fund be used for a state fire academy, replacement of unsafe fire trucks, and administrative support services for nonfunded training to localities, to include an emergency vehicle operator's course and the development of a mandatory firefighters training curriculum. The bill also contains a technical amendment.

Patrons: Almand, Brink, Darner and Plum
02/08/02 House: Tabled in Appropriations (25-Y 0-N)
Notes: City position: Support.

HB 994 Land use applications; delinquent taxes.

Summary as introduced:

Land use applications; delinquent taxes. Includes building permits and erosion and sediment control permits as types of permits that localities may issue subject to payment of delinquent real estate taxes.

Patron: Councill

03/01/02 Senate: Passed Senate (40-Y 0-N)

Notes: City Position: Support.

HB 996 Plat approval.

Summary as introduced:

Plat approval. Requires the planning commission to identify all deficiencies in a plat that cause disapproval and identify all modifications or corrections as will permit approval of the plat. The local planning commission shall act on any proposed plat within forty-five days of submittal, rather than sixty days. The failure to act within forty-five days or to state the reasons for disapproval shall cause the plat to be deemed approved. The commission shall act on any proposed plat that it has previously disapproved within 30 days after the plat has been resubmitted for approval.

Patron: McDonnell

01/09/02 House: Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns

02/08/02 House: Continued to 2003 in C. C. T. (22-Y 0-N)

Notes: City Position: Oppose.

HB 1013 Grants for home ownership.

Summary as introduced:

Grants for home ownership. Allows localities to make grants of local funds up to \$3,000 to local employees for the purchase of a house, apartment or condominium in the locality. The house, apartment or condominium purchased must be used as the principal residence of the grant recipient.

Patrons: Scott, Almand, Amundson, Bland, Brink, Christian, Crittenden, Darner, Hull, Jones, D.C., Moran, Van Landingham and Van Yahres

01/09/02 House: Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns

02/06/02 House: Continued to 2003 in C. C. T. (22-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Support, and seek amendments to allow localities to make loans as well as grants.

HB 1014 Parking.

Summary as introduced:

Parking. Authorizes localities to adopt ordinances to prohibit parking commercial vehicles where

they block passing traffic or so restrict the view of oncoming and cross-traffic as to interfere with traffic safety.

Patrons: Scott, Albo, Bland, Callahan, Dillard, Hull, Lingamfelter, Miles, O'Brien, Rust and Watts

01/09/02 House: Referred to Committee on Transportation

02/07/02 House: Stricken from docket by Tra. (22-Y 0-N)

Notes: City Position: Support.

HB 1018 Local income tax.

Summary as introduced:

Local income tax. Provides that imposition of the local income tax permitted in certain localities after a local referendum may be set forth on the referendum ballot in one-quarter percent increments not to exceed one percent. The local tax shall be used for (i) transportation projects for certain localities that are part of a plan approved in December 1999 by a transportation council consisting of state and local elected officials; and/or (ii) public education purposes including the construction of, renovation of, technology for and debt service for public schools. However, at least 55 percent of revenues from the local income tax must be expended for transportation purposes. The taxing authority expires on July 1, 2004, if no locality has imposed the tax by that date. The bill repeals current law that restricts any such local income tax to a duration of five years.

Patron: Scott

01/09/02 House: Referred to Committee on Finance

02/09/02 House: Continued to 2003 in Finance (21-Y 1-N)

Notes: City Position: Support.

HB 1023 Local housing authorities; powers.

Summary as introduced:

Local housing authorities; powers. Authorizes local housing authorities to refinance loans for assistance in planning, development, acquisition, construction, repair, rehabilitation, equipping or maintenance of commercial, residential or other buildings.

Patrons: Scott, Almand, Amundson, Callahan, Devolites, Plum and Watts; Senators: Byrne, Howell, Puller and Ticer

02/25/02 Senate: Passed Senate (38-Y 0-N)

Notes: City Position: Support.

HB 1049 Educational opportunity programs.

Summary as introduced:

Educational opportunity programs. Increases, in the statute regarding educational opportunity programs, the program for at-risk four-year-olds to cover 100 percent of the eligible children and to provide funding to those localities that have been delivering this program prior to the enactment of this statute and the provision of funding in the appropriation act. Those localities that have previously implemented these programs through local and federal moneys and have not received any state grants for at-risk four-year-old programs would be eligible for funding in the

2002-2003 fiscal year. If the local funding in 2001-2002 was more than the required local match for state funds in the 2002-2003 fiscal year, reduction of the local funding would not be construed as supplanting of state funds.

Patrons: Darner, Almand, Brink, Christian, Crittenden, Spruill and Van Landingham

01/30/02 House: Continued to 2003 in Education (22-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Support.

HB 1115 Department of Corrections; inmate collect call system.

Summary as introduced:

Department of Corrections; inmate collect call system. Provides that any commission or rebate received or realized by the Department of Corrections, or by any state, local or regional correctional facility from a contractor providing inmate telephone services shall be used to reduce the surcharge or rates paid for inmate calls under any inmate collect call system.

Patrons: Crittenden, Christian and Darner; Senator: Maxwell

01/09/02 House: Referred to Committee on Militia, Police and Public Safety

02/07/02 House: Continued to 2003 in M.,P. & P. S. (22-Y 0-N)

Notes: City Position: Oppose.

HB 1160 Personal property tax; refund or credit for vehicles sold.

Summary as introduced:

Personal property tax; refund or credit for vehicles sold. Provides that the amount of tax relieved when a vehicle is disposed of after tax day shall be (i) refunded or (ii) credited against other personal property taxes owed by the taxpayer, at the option of the locality. Under current law, the taxpayer is afforded this option.

Patrons: Tata, Purkey, Sears, Suit and Wardrup; Senator: Stolle

03/07/02 House: Signed by Speaker

03/07/02 Senate: Signed by President

Notes: City Position: Support.

HB 1192 Parking fines; personal property taxes on vehicles.

Summary as introduced:

Parking fines; personal property taxes on vehicles. Allows local governing bodies to enter into regional compacts for the inter-jurisdictional enforcement of local parking and vehicular personal property tax ordinances assessed against vehicles of persons.

Patron: Almand

02/19/02 Senate: VOTE: PASSAGE R (40-Y 0-N)

Notes: City Position: Support.

HB 1237 Workers' compensation; occupational disease.

Summary as passed House:

Workers' compensation; occupational disease. Grants to commercial vehicle enforcement officers and motor carrier safety troopers employed by the Department of State Police and full-time sworn members of the enforcement division of the Department of Motor Vehicles the

presumption that certain cancers are occupational diseases under the Workers' Compensation Act. The bill also includes in the definition of "firefighter" any person who is employed by or contracts with any private employer primarily to provide firefighting services.

Patron: Jones, J.C.

03/05/02 Senate: Passed Senate (39-Y 0-N)

Notes: City Position: Support.

HB 1266 Sale price of m.v. subject to the m. v. sales and use tax.

Summary as introduced:

Sale price of motor vehicles subject to the motor vehicle sales and use tax; reductions.

Reduces the taxable price of a motor vehicle for purposes of determining motor vehicle sales and use tax liability by the value of any motor vehicle taken in trade and by the amount of all rebates. The amount of credit for a vehicle taken in trade is the lesser of the allowance given by the seller or the wholesale value of the vehicle as specified in a recognized pricing guide.

Patrons: Byron, Albo, Bolvin, Cole, Cosgrove, Hargrove, Kilgore, Louderback, Oder, Reese, Saxman and Weatherholtz

02/06/02 House: Continued to 2003 in Finance (22-Y 0-N)

Notes: City Position: Oppose.

HB 1276 Urban and secondary highway system construction allocations.

Summary as introduced:

Urban and secondary highway system construction allocations. Allocates urban system and secondary system highway construction funds among affected jurisdictions on the basis of (i) area, (ii) vehicle miles traveled per lane-mile, and (iii) population, with area being weighted 15 percent, vehicle miles traveled per lane-mile weighted 25 percent, and population weighted 60 percent.

Patrons: Rust, Albo, Amundson, Black, Bolvin, Callahan, Dillard, Hull, May, McDonnell, Petersen, Reese and Scott; *Senators:* Mims and Puller

01/18/02 House: Referred to Committee on Transportation

02/07/02 House: Continued to 2003 in Tra. (22-Y 0-N)

Notes: City Position: Oppose.

HB 1306 Housing Development Authority; regulations.

Summary as introduced:

Virginia Housing Development Authority; regulations. Requires the Housing Development Authority to develop regulations providing that single-family mortgage loans may be made to more than one person only if the persons to whom the loan is to be made are related by blood, marriage or adoption.

Patrons: McDougle, Black, Byron, Cole, Cosgrove, Cox, Griffith, Janis, Lingamfelter, Marshall, R.G., McDonnell, Nixon and Nutter

02/20/02 Senate: Continued to 2003 in General Laws

Notes: City Position: Oppose.

HB 1367 Zoning amendments.

Summary as introduced:

Zoning amendments. Provides that no amendment to the zoning map shall be instituted without the written consent of or just compensation to the landowner whose property is the subject of such amendment.

Patron: Black

01/18/02 House: Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns

02/06/02 House: Continued to 2003 in C. C. T. (21-Y 1-N)

Notes: City Position: Oppose.

HJ 13 Constitutional amendment; property tax exemptions.

Summary as introduced:

Constitutional amendment (second resolution); property tax exemptions. Allows local governing bodies to grant tax exemptions for property used for charitable and certain other purposes by local ordinance subject to restrictions and conditions as provided by general law enacted by the General Assembly. The present Constitution allows the General Assembly to exempt such property by classification or by designation by a three-fourths vote in each house. See, also, HB 36, companion referendum bill.

Patrons: Howell, Dudley and McQuigg

03/01/02 Senate: Read third time and agreed to by Senate (40-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Oppose.

HJ 126 Constitutional amendment; property exempt from taxation.

Summary as introduced:

Constitutional amendment (first resolution); property exempt from taxation. Exempts privately owned motor vehicles used for nonbusiness purposes from state and local taxation.

Patrons: Watts, Hull, Jones, J.C., Moran and Plum

01/21/02 House: Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections

Notes: City Position: Oppose.

HJ 146 Constitutional amendment; property segregated for local taxation.

Summary as introduced:

Constitution; property segregated for local taxation. Provides that any law proposing to reimburse or otherwise substitute state funds for a local tax so segregated shall provide for the full reimbursement of the local revenues, including administrative and other ancillary governmental costs.

Patrons: Almand, Brink and Darner

01/21/02 House: Referred from Finance (21-Y 0-N)

01/21/02 House: Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections

02/01/02 House: Continued to 2003 in P. & E. (22-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Support.

HJ 156 Study; growth and economic development.

Summary as passed House:

Growth and Economic Development. Continues the Commission on Growth and Economic Development. In conducting its study, the Commission shall continue to encourage the participation of all interested groups, organizations and individuals, including those associated with local governments, business interests, the development community, and environmental causes. Issues to be examined by the Commission may include: (i) the need for new or additional funding for programs such as the Derelict Structure Fund, the Weed and Seed Program, Housing Revitalization Zone Program, Urban Public-Private Partnership Redevelopment Fund, housing tax credits, public transportation needs, brownfields site assessment, Agricultural Vitality Program and state and local important soil surveys; (ii) the need for a dedicated source of funding to preserve open space; (iii) a study of the local government tax authority and structure to determine what may be a hindrance to preserving open space; (iv) the creation of a statewide housing policy to address issues such as homeownership trends, barriers to homeownership, and the need for local government accommodation of the housing needs of the entire spectrum of potential home buyers; (v) reform of VDOT funding methods, including increased flexibility to localities in the use of state street maintenance and construction funding; (vi) changes to VDOT minimum street width standards to allow greater local flexibility; (vii) enhancement of the use of various state tax credits and development of a tax credit program for brownfields; (viii) issues surrounding the leasing versus purchasing of educational facilities; (ix) issues related to local revenue shortfalls including proposals to return a portion of future growth in state income tax revenue and use of the referendum process to allow citizens to determine whether a locality should adopt new local taxes to address such shortfalls; and (x) methods for addressing the state transportation funding shortfall.

The Commission must report its interim findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 2003 Session of the General Assembly, and must submit its written final report to the Governor and the 2004 Session of the General Assembly.

Patron: Hall

03/05/02 Senate: Read third time and agreed to by Senate by voice vote

Notes: City position: Support (Contains provision to study local revenue needs to purchase or protect open space).

SB 3 Motor vehicle registration fees for emergency services.

Summary as passed Senate:

Four-for-life. Increases, effective July 1, 2002, from two dollars per year (two-for-life) to four dollars per year (four-for-life) the motor vehicle registration surcharge used to provide funding for public safety and emergency response purposes.

Patrons: Reynolds, Deeds and Quayle

02/18/02 House: Referred to Committee on Transportation

02/26/02 House: Failed to report (defeated) in Tra. (9-Y 13-N)

Notes: City position: Support.

SB 36 Subsidized guardianship of children living with relative caregivers.

Summary as introduced:

Subsidized guardianship of children living with relative caregivers. Directs the Department

of Social Services to establish a subsidized guardianship program for the benefit of children in the custody of a local board of social services or other child welfare agency who are living with relative caregivers and who have been in foster care or living with relatives other than natural parents for not less than 18 months. A relative caregiver means a person who is caring for a child related to such person for whom the option of reunification has been eliminated and termination of parental rights is not appropriate. The subsidized guardianship program shall include a special-need subsidy, which shall be a one-time lump sum payment for expenses resulting from the assumption of care of the child, a medical subsidy, and a monthly subsidy on behalf of the child payable to the relative caregiver that shall be equal to the prevailing foster care rate. The Department may establish an asset test for eligibility under the program. The relative caregiver receiving a guardianship subsidy shall submit annually to the Department a sworn statement that the child is still living with and receiving support from the guardian.

Patron: Miller, Y.B.

01/09/02 Senate: Referred to Committee on Rehabilitation & Social Services

01/18/02 Senate: Continued to 2003 in R. & S. S. (14-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Support.

SB 46 Carrying firearms during period of protective order.

Summary as passed:

Carrying firearms during period of protective order. Clarifies that any person who is subject to a protective order is prohibited from carrying a concealed handgun while the order is in effect, even if he holds a concealed handgun permit. The person shall surrender his permit to the court for the duration of the protective order. A violation is a Class 1 misdemeanor. This bill is substantially similar to HB 432.

Patron: Reynolds

02/28/02 Senate: VOTE: CONCUR HOUSE AMENDMENT (40-Y 0-N)

03/07/02 House: Signed by Speaker

03/07/02 Senate: Signed by President

Notes: City position: Support.

SB 83 Technology Trust Fund Fee; extends sunset provisions.

Summary as passed:

Technology Trust Fund. Extends the sunset from July 1, 2002, to July 1, 2004. This bill is identical to HB 857.

Patrons: Wampler, Bolling, Hawkins, Houck, Lambert, Norment, Stolle, Trumbo and Watkins;

Delegates: Abbitt, Hamilton, Ingram, Morgan, Stump and Tata

02/20/02 Senate: House amendment agreed to by Senate (40-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Support.

SB 98 Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection Orders Act.

Summary as introduced:

Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection Orders Act. Furthers the "full faith and credit" provision of the Federal Violence Against Women Act of 1994 regarding

protection orders issued by states to ensure that full faith and credit is effectively given to protection orders. The Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection Orders Act was adopted by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws (NCCUSL) in August 2000. The act establishes a uniform system for the enforcement of domestic violence protection orders across state lines. The act defines the meaning of full faith and credit as it relates to the interstate enforcement of domestic violence protection orders and establishes uniform procedures for interstate enforcement. Courts must enforce the terms of valid protection orders of other states as if they were entered by the enforcing state, until the order expires. All terms of the order are to be enforced, even if the order provides for relief that would be unavailable under the laws of the enforcing state. Terms that concern custody and visitation matters are enforceable if issued for protection purposes and if the order meets the jurisdictional requirements of the enforcing state. Terms of the order made with respect to support are enforceable under the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act. A law-enforcement officer, upon finding probable cause that a valid order has been violated, must enforce the order as if it were an order of the enforcing state. Law-enforcement officers, governmental agencies, attorneys for the Commonwealth, clerks of court, and other officials are protected from civil and criminal liability for enforcement of a protection order in good faith. So far the act has been adopted by California, Indiana, Montana and Texas. It has been introduced in seven other states, including West Virginia and the District of Columbia.

Patron: Howell

01/30/02 Senate: Continued to 2003 in Courts of Justice (15-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Support.

SB 122 Local tax on mobile telecommunications services.

Summary as introduced:

Local tax on mobile telecommunications services. Incorporates uniform federal sourcing laws that determine which jurisdictions may impose taxes on local mobile telecommunications services. Beginning August 1, 2002, federal law provides that taxes on mobile telecommunications services may be imposed by a jurisdiction only if the customer's place of primary use is within the jurisdiction. The "place of primary use" is defined as the street address representative of where the customer's use of the mobile telecommunications service primarily occurs, which must be the residential street address or the primary business street address of the customer and within the licensed service area of the provider of the telecommunications service.

Patron: Stosch

03/04/02 Governor: Approved by Governor-Chapter 68 (effective 7/1/02)

Notes: City position: Support.

SB 134 Freedom of Information Act; exemptions relating to terrorism.

Summary as passed Senate:

Freedom of Information; exemptions relating to terrorism. Provides a record exemption from FOIA for (i) plans to prevent or respond to terrorist activity, to the extent such records set forth specific tactics, or specific security or emergency procedures, the disclosure of which would jeopardize the safety of governmental personnel or the general public, or the security of any

governmental facility, building, structure, or information storage systems; and (ii) engineering and architectural drawings, operational, procedural, tactical planning or training manuals, or staff meeting minutes or other records, the disclosure of which would reveal surveillance techniques, personnel deployments, alarm or security systems or technologies, or operational and transportation plans or protocols, to the extent such disclosure would jeopardize the security of any governmental facility, building or structure or the safety of persons using such facility, building, structure, or information storage systems. The bill also expands the open meeting exemption to provide that a public body may convene a closed meeting for the discussion of plans to protect public safety as it relates to terrorist activity and briefings by staff members or legal counsel concerning actions taken to respond to such activity or a related threat to public safety. The bill also authorizes the custodian of public records to ask a requester of records for his name and legal address. The bill contains a technical amendment.

Patrons: Stolle and Rerras

02/22/02 House: Passed House BLOCK VOTE (100-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Support.

SB 168 Prosecution for abuse and neglect; abandoned children.

Summary as introduced:

Affirmative defense to prosecution for abuse and neglect; infant-receiving facilities; emergency custody of abandoned children. Provides that when a parent voluntarily delivers a child no older than 72 hours to an infant-receiving facility, the parent will have an affirmative defense to prosecution for abuse or neglect, if the abuse or neglect prosecution is based solely upon the parent's delivery of the child to an infant-receiving facility. Infant-receiving facilities include hospitals, physicians' offices, local departments of health, local departments of social services, and rescue squads or fire departments that include emergency medical technicians. Acute care hospitals offering 24-hour emergency service are required to become infant-receiving facilities; becoming an infant-receiving facility is discretionary with the other entities listed. The parents may remain anonymous. However, the parents will be given a personal identification number and a toll-free telephone number so that they may contact social services to provide information about the health or family history of the infant. By delivering the child to an infant-receiving facility, the parents are presumed to have consented to termination of their parental rights. Personnel who accept these children would be immune from liability absent gross negligence or willful misconduct. The Department of Social Services, in conjunction with the Department of Health, is required to develop guidelines for establishing and maintaining an infant-receiving facility. The Department of Social Services is required to launch a media campaign to publicize the emergency custody procedures for abandoned children. The bill has an 8 year sunset clause.

Patrons: Byrne and Ticer

01/09/02 Senate: Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

01/23/02 Senate: Failed to report (defeated) in C. J. (7-Y 8-N)

Notes: City position: Support.

SB 170 Sales and use tax; additional in No. Va. to fund transportation.

Summary as passed Senate:

Sales and use taxes; statewide and regional taxes to fund public education and transportation.

Provides for three referendum questions to be voted on at the November 5, 2002 election, each question being mutually exclusive and asking the sense of the voter on additional sales and use taxes. The additional sales and use taxes become effective if the referendum question on the additional tax is affirmed by the voters. One question asks the voters of the Eighth Planning District if there should be an additional one-half of one-percent sales and use tax in the counties and cities of such district with the revenues from the tax to be used for regional transportation projects and programs in Northern Virginia. A second question asks the voters in several counties and cities of the Hampton Roads Planning District if there should be an additional one-percent sales and use tax in such counties and cities with the revenues from the tax to be used for regional transportation projects and programs in Hampton Roads. Both referendum questions are contingent upon approval by a majority of persons voting in a joint referendum of all the cities and counties in the Eighth Planning District and several of the cities and counties in the Hampton Roads Planning District, respectively. The last referendum question asks all persons in the Commonwealth voting on November 5, 2002, if there should be an additional one-half of one-percent sales and use tax in all jurisdictions in the Commonwealth with the revenues to be used for expenses incurred in the operation of public schools and capital projects for public schools. The additional sales and use taxes associated with each referendum question would become effective July 1, 2003.

Patrons: Colgan; Delegate: Parrish

03/09/02 Defeated

Notes: City position: Support, but seek the following modifications: funding for DASH; distribution of sales tax revenues for education based on point of sale; provision for a regional (e.g., planning district) sales tax for education

SB 173 Sales and use tax increase; exempts certain M.V. and boats.

Summary as introduced:

Sales and use tax increase; exemption of certain motor vehicles and boats from tangible personal property taxation.

Provides for a one and one-half percent increase in the retail sales and use tax and exempts certain motor vehicles and boats from local tangible personal property taxation, provided that a constitutional amendment exempting such motor vehicles and boats is ratified by a majority of voters voting on such measure in November 2004. The tax exemptions and the additional one and one-half percent sales and use tax are effective January 1, 2005. The revenue from the increase in the sales and use tax shall be used to make payments to localities in lieu of the current funding processes to reimburse localities under the Personal Property Tax Relief Act of 1998. The new funding mechanism will begin in calendar year 2005. In general, the amount funded to (i) a county shall be the amount funded to the county in the preceding calendar year plus 15 percent of any increase in the state sales and use tax revenue over the preceding fiscal year; (ii) a city shall be the amount funded to the city in the preceding calendar year plus 11 percent of any increase in the state sales and use tax revenue over the preceding fiscal year; and (iii) a town shall be the amount funded to the town in the preceding calendar year plus five percent of any increase in the state sales and use tax revenue over the preceding fiscal year. Each

locality will have a base year funding amount. The base year funding amount shall equal (a) for a county, 15 percent of its total local tax revenues collected in fiscal year 1997; (b) for a city, 11 percent of its total local tax revenues collected in fiscal year 1997; and (c) for a town, five percent of its total local tax revenues collected in fiscal year 1997. The base year amount is used for purposes of determining initial funding amounts to counties, cities, and towns in calendar year 2005.

Patron: Colgan

02/13/02 Senate: Passed by in Finance with letter

02/13/02 Senate: Letter to Joint Sub. on VA State Tax Code

Notes: City position: Oppose.

SB 178 State fuels tax; increase in tax on gasoline, diesel fuel, etc.

Summary as introduced:

State fuels tax; increase in tax on gasoline, diesel fuel, and liquid alternative fuel. Increases the fuels tax on (i) gasoline and gasohol from 17 and one-half cents to 22 and one-half cents per gallon, (ii) diesel fuel from 16 cents to 18 cents per gallon, and (iii) liquid alternative fuels used to operate a highway vehicle from 16 cents to 22 and one-half cents per gallon. The tax increases are effective January 1, 2003, and all revenues attributable to the increases shall be paid into the Transportation Trust Fund.

Patron: Miller, K.G.

02/12/02 Senate: Failed to report (defeated) in Finance (7-Y 8-N 1-A)

Notes: City position: Support.

SB 189 Sales and use tax; food for human consumption.

Summary as introduced:

Sales and use tax; food for human consumption. Exempts food for human consumption from the state sales and use tax.

Patron: Deeds

02/13/02 Senate: Left in Finance

Notes: City position: Oppose.

SB 217 Educational opportunity programs.

Summary as introduced:

Educational opportunity programs. Increases, in the statute regarding educational opportunity programs, the program for at-risk four-year-olds to cover 100 percent of the eligible children and to provide funding to those localities that have been delivering this program prior to the enactment of this statute and the provision of funding in the appropriation act. Those localities that have previously implemented these programs through local and federal moneys and have not received any state grants for at-risk four-year-old programs would be eligible for funding in the 2002-2003 fiscal year. If the local funding in 2001-2002 was more than the required local match for state funds in the 2002-2003 fiscal year, reduction of the local funding would not be construed as supplanting of state funds.

Patrons: Ticer and Whipple; *Delegates:* Almand, Brink, Darner and Van Landingham

02/13/02 Senate: Left in Finance

Notes: City position: Support.

SB 268 Social services; auxiliary grants.

Summary as introduced:

Social services; auxiliary grants. Makes the auxiliary grants program completely state-funded by eliminating the local share of the program. This is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care.

Patrons: Lambert and Puller; Delegate: Brink

02/13/02 Senate: Left in Finance

Notes: City position: Support.

SB 311 Uniform Statewide Building Code; inspections.

Summary as introduced:

Uniform Statewide Building Code; inspections. Allows local building officials to perform inspections of rental properties at intervals established by ordinance.

Patrons: Edwards and Byrne

01/23/02 Senate: Failed to report (defeated) in General Laws (5-Y 8-N 1-A)

Notes: City position: Support.

SB 380 Localities' Share of Individual Income Tax Revenue Fund.

Summary as introduced:

Individual income tax; distribution of a portion of individual income tax revenues to localities; Localities' Share of Individual Income Tax Revenue Fund. Establishes the Localities' Share of Individual Income Tax Revenue Fund into which two percent of individual income tax revenues shall be deposited in 2003 for distribution to localities. The percentage increases two percent each year until it reaches a maximum of 10 percent in 2007. The amount in the fund is to be distributed annually to counties and cities as follows: (i) 50 percent distributed based on the relative share of the total state income tax paid by taxpayers filing returns in each locality; (ii) 40 percent distributed based on where wages are earned; and (iii) 10 percent divided equally among all 135 counties and cities. The amount distributed to counties is then to be shared with towns located within the counties based on the towns' relative share of total population within the county. Fifty percent of the amount distributed to any county with towns would be divided among the county and its towns based on population. If a county has no towns within its boundaries, the county keeps the entire distribution of individual income tax revenue. Distributions are to be made by the State Treasurer to localities no later than September 1, with the first one beginning in 2003. Any corrections in the amount of distributions will be made in the fiscal year immediately following the year in which the incorrect distribution was made.

Patron: Whipple

02/13/02 Senate: Left in Finance

Notes: City position: Support.

SB 382 VDOT pedestrian projects.

Summary as passed Senate:

VDOT pedestrian and bicycle projects. Allows VDOT to fund and undertake pedestrian and bicycle projects apart from highway projects.

Patrons: Whipple and Byrne; *Delegates:* Almand, Brink and Darner

02/22/02 House: Passed House BLOCK VOTE (100-Y 0-N)

Notes: City position: Support.

SB 384 Grants for home ownership.

Summary as introduced:

Grants for home ownership. Allows localities to make grants of local funds to employees of the locality or of the school board for the purchase of a house, apartment or condominium in the locality. The house, apartment or condominium purchased must be used as the principal residence of the grant recipient.

Patron: Whipple

01/09/02 Senate: Referred to Committee on Local Government

01/29/02 Senate: Failed to report (defeated) in L. G. (5-Y 9-N)

Notes: City position: Support, and seek amendments to allow localities to make loans as well as grants.

SB 394 Law-enforcement expenditures of local governments.

Summary as introduced:

Appropriations for law enforcement expenditures of local governments. Provides that any increase or decrease in HB 599 funding for law-enforcement expenditures of local governments shall equal the anticipated increase or decrease in total general fund revenue collections for the relevant fiscal year as provided in the general appropriations act for the biennium. Any changes in anticipated total general fund revenue collections as provided through amendments to the biennial budget in an odd year or as provided in the caboose bill shall have no affect on the percentage change in HB 599 funding. The percentage increase or decrease in HB 599 funding shall be determined solely from the general appropriations act that is passed prior to the beginning of the biennium. The bill also requires that HB 599 funding in the Governor's budget bill shall increase or decrease in the relevant fiscal year by the percentage change in anticipated total general fund revenue collections for such fiscal year as forecasted in the Governor's budget bill.

Patrons: Whipple; *Delegates:* Albo, Darner and Van Landingham

02/05/02 Senate: Continued to 2003 in Finance (14-Y 1-N)

Notes: City position: Support.

SB 404 Assessment for courthouse security.

Summary as introduced:

Assessment for courthouse security. Allows localities to assess each criminal, civil and traffic case a fee of up to ten dollars for courthouse security.

Patrons: Rerras and Stolle

02/18/02 House: Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

03/01/02 House: Failed to report (defeated) in C. J. (9-Y 13-N)

Notes: City position: Support.

SB 485 Issuance and violation of stalking protective orders.

Summary as passed Senate:

Issuance and violation of stalking protective orders; penalty. The bill provides that, except when necessary for conduct of the criminal proceeding, the address and telephone number of an allegedly stalked person may not be disclosed. The bill also requires that protective order information be entered into the Virginia Criminal Information Network (VCIN) upon receipt.

Patron: Howell

02/27/02 House: Passed House BLOCK VOTE (99-Y 0-N)

Notes: City Position: Support.

SB 509 Educational opportunity programs.

Summary as introduced:

Educational opportunity programs. Increases, in the statute regarding educational opportunity programs, the program for at-risk four-year-olds to cover 100 percent of the eligible children and to provide funding to those localities that have been delivering this program on at least a half-day basis prior to the enactment of this statute and the provision of funding in the appropriation act. Those localities that have previously implemented these programs through local and federal moneys and have not received any state grants for at-risk four-year-old programs would be eligible for funding in the 2002-2003 fiscal year. If the local funding in 2001-2002 was more than the required local match for state funds in the 2002-2003 fiscal year, reduction of the local funding would not be construed as supplanting of state funds.

Patrons: Newman and Williams; *Delegate:* Oder

02/13/02 Senate: Left in Finance

Notes: City position: Support.

SB 518 Protective orders; penalty.

Summary as passed Senate:

Family abuse protective orders; penalty. Provides that the name of a person protected by a protective order shall not be disclosed, unless required by law or necessary for law-enforcement purposes and that no fee shall be charged for filing or serving a protective order. Additionally, the bill requires law-enforcement agencies to enter certain information regarding the protective order, upon receipt, into the Virginia Criminal Information Network System (VCIN).

Patron: Howell

03/04/02 Senate: House amendments agreed to by Senate (40-Y 0-N)

Notes: City Position: Support.

SB 576 Northern Virginia Transportation Authority.

Summary as passed Senate:

Northern Virginia Transportation Authority. Revises statutory provisions dealing with the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority by substituting provisions recommended by the Joint Subcommittee Studying Creation of a Northern Virginia Regional Transportation Authority (the

"Barry Commission") for 2001 legislation that created the Authority.

Patrons: Barry, Byrne, Colgan, Howell, Potts, Puller, Saslaw, Ticer and Whipple; *Delegates:* Amundson, Brink, Callahan, Moran, Parrish, Reese, Rollison, Scott and Watts

03/07/02 Senate: House sub. w/amds. agreed to by Senate (39-Y 0-N)

Notes: City Position: Support.

SB 593 Local control of firearms.

Summary as passed Senate:

Local control of firearms. Provides that a statute that does not refer to firearms or ammunition shall not be construed to provide express authorization for localities to regulate firearms. From and after January 1, 1987, no locality shall adopt any ordinance, resolution, or motion, nor take any administrative action governing the purchase, possession, transfer, ownership, carrying or transporting of firearms, ammunition, or components or combination thereof other than those expressly authorized by statute. The bill provides a locality is not prohibited from adopting workplace rules.

Patron: Hanger

03/08/02 Senate: Conference report agreed to by Senate (26-Y 13-N)

03/08/02 House: Conference report agreed to by House (68-Y 26-N)

Notes: City Position: Oppose as introduced.

SB 618 Sewage sludge; local authority, fees.

Summary as introduced:

Sewage sludge; local authority; fees. Provides authority for localities to enact ordinances that prohibit, restrict, or regulate the land application of sewage sludge. Allows for the collection of local fees to cover testing and monitoring costs. Removes certain provisions requiring the Board of Health to adopt regulations concerning the payment, collection, and disbursement of sludge land application permit fees by the Department of Health.

Patron: Deeds

01/18/02 Senate: Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Conservation & Nat.

02/04/02 Senate: Continued to 2003 in A. C. & N. R. (15-Y 0-N)

Notes: City Position: Oppose.

SB 641 Protective orders; family abuse.

Summary as passed Senate:

Protective orders; dating violence. Creates a provision for issuing protective orders to persons in a dating relationship. A dating relationship is defined as a romantic relationship between individuals that exists or has existed for a reasonably continuous period of time. Jurisdiction is in the general district court unless the respondent is a minor, in which case jurisdiction is in the juvenile and domestic relations district court.

Patron: Watkins

03/04/02 House: Continued to 2003 in Courts of Justice (17-Y 5-N)

Notes: City Position: Support.

SJ 51 Constitutional amendment; taxation, exemptions.

Summary as introduced:

Constitutional amendment (first resolution); taxation; exemptions. Exempts from taxation motor vehicles and boats, as provided by general law.

Patrons: Colgan and Byrne

01/09/02 Senate: Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections

01/29/02 Senate: Continued to 2003 in P. & E. (15-Y 0-N)

01/29/02 Senate: Letter to Joint Sub. on Va. State Tax Code

Notes: City position: Oppose.

SJ 70 Constitutional amendment; taxation, assessments.

Summary as introduced:

Constitutional amendment (first resolution); taxation; assessments. Provides that the General Assembly may prescribe a measure other than fair market value to be used in determining assessments of personal residences.

Patron: Miller, K.G.

01/09/02 Senate: Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections

01/29/02 Senate: Continued to 2003 in P. & E. (15-Y 0-N)

01/29/02 Senate: Letter to Joint Sub. on Va. State Tax Code

Notes: City position: Oppose.

SJ 92 Constitutional amendment; property segregated for local taxation.

Summary as introduced:

Constitution; property segregated for local taxation. Provides that any law proposing to reimburse or otherwise substitute state funds for a local tax so segregated shall provide for the full reimbursement of the local revenues, including administrative and other ancillary governmental costs.

Patrons: Whipple; Delegates: Brink and Darner

01/09/02 Senate: Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections

01/29/02 Senate: Continued to 2003 in P. & E. (15-Y 0-N)

01/29/02 Senate: Letter to Joint Sub. on Va. State Tax Code

Notes: City position: Support

Items of Concern to the City of Alexandria
Budget Passed by the General Assembly
(with preliminary staff estimates of impacts on the City)
March 9, 2002

ITEM	HOUSE	SENATE	FINAL BUDGET
Alexandria Public Schools			
Existing FY 02	\$23,639,771	\$23,639,771	
Gov. proposal FY 02	\$22,147,870	\$22,147,870	
(Reduction from Existing FY 02)	(-1,491,901)	(-1,491,901)	
General Assembly (GA) FY 02	\$22,098,494	\$22,100,320	22,098,494
(Reduction from Existing FY02)	(-1,541,277)	(-1,539,451)	(-1,541,277)
Gov. proposal FY 03	\$22,411,822	\$22,411,822	
GA FY 03 (- Reduction)	\$21,635,336 (-776,486)	\$22,195,008 (-216,814)	22,015,760 (-396,062)
Gov. proposal FY 04	\$23,160,714	\$23,160,714	
GA FY 04 (- Reduction)	\$22,683,532 (-477,182)	\$22,851,270 (-309,444)	22,954,066 (-206,648)
School Construction Grants	\$0	\$27.5 M statewide	\$27.5 M statewide annually
Estimated impact on City	In FY 02, City received \$ 296,498 under this program; this amendment would eliminate this funding	In FY 02, City received \$ 296,498 under this program; funding will be reduced to approximately \$ 148,250	Estimated funding to the City: \$148,250 annually

ITEM	HOUSE	SENATE	FINAL BUDGET
Constitutional Officers Estimated impact on City	reduction of up to 5 percent in State funding for sheriffs and deputy sheriffs loss of up to \$245,000 annually	Localities to cover an additional 10% of costs loss of \$ 650,000 annually	* reduction of up to 5 percent in State funding for sheriffs and deputy sheriffs * Localities to cover an additional 7 to 8% of costs for other constitutional officers * Staff is unable to estimate impact on City of reductions to the sheriff's budget, since the State may seek to accomplish the 5% reduction statewide by leaving vacancies open longer; staff estimates a reduction of about \$180,000 annually for other constitutional officers
HB 599 FY02 Estimated impact on City FY03 Estimated impact on City FY04 Estimated impact on City	Freeze at 2000 level (\$6,026,123) loss: approximately \$500,000 Freeze at 2000 level loss: approximately \$500,000 Freeze at 2000 level loss: approximately \$500,000	Recalculate (and reduce for each FY) based on the latest State GF revenue forecasts (\$5.6 M) statewide loss of \$ 198,000 (\$2.5 M) statewide loss of \$ 88,000 (\$1.7 M) statewide loss of \$ 59,000	Recalculate (and reduce) for FY 02 and 03 based on the latest State GF revenue forecasts; freeze for FY 04 at FY 03 level (\$5.6 M) statewide loss of \$ 198,000 (\$2.5 M) statewide loss of \$ 88,000 Freeze at 2003 level Unable to determine impact

ITEM	HOUSE	SENATE	FINAL BUDGET
VJCCCA Estimated impact on City	reduce funds statewide by \$14.5 M annually (from \$29.5 M); turn program into a competitive grant program loss of funds could be as high as \$ 250,000, but cannot be determined, since grants would be awarded on a competitive basis	reduce funds statewide by \$6.5 M reduces State funding to this program from approximately \$250,000 to \$190,000	reduce funds statewide by \$14.5 M annually (from \$29.5 M); turn program in FY 04 into a competitive grant program loss of funds could be as high as \$ 250,000, but cannot be determined, since the State Department of Juvenile Justice is to use "discretion" for the allocation of grants in FY 03, and grants in FY 04 will be awarded on a competitive basis
Offices on Youth Estimated impact on City	eliminate State funding loss of \$ 83,447	eliminate State funding loss of \$ 83,447	eliminate State funding loss of \$ 83,447
Arlandria Clinic Estimated impact on City	\$0 A \$125,000 reduction could result in the loss of up to 4 employees for the Clinic, which serves 3,000 low-income/uninsured women and children of the City. It may be in risk of closing.	\$125,000/yr Continues existing State funding for the Clinic	\$112,500/yr Loss of \$12,500 annually
Project Discovery Estimated impact on City	eliminate State funding unable to determine	no reduction proposed no impact on City	reduction of 7 to 8 % statewide exact impact cannot be determined, but is expected to be minimal

ITEM	HOUSE	SENATE	FINAL BUDGET
<p>Healthy Families</p> <p>Estimated impact on City</p>		<p>Restore \$2.4 million (25% of proposed cut)</p> <p>Approximately 100 families in Alexandria are enrolled in this program at any time and could be affected. High-risk pregnant women are assisted through case management for medical appointments, immunizations, and parenting skills.</p>	<p>Restored most, if not all, proposed cuts)</p> <p>no anticipated change to program</p>
<p>Comprehensive Services Act</p> <p>Estimated impact on City</p>	<p>Restores current match rate, but requires additional 10% local match for supplemental appropriations in FY 04</p> <p>unable to determine</p>	<p>Leaves CSA program, including local match rates, as it exists today</p> <p>no impact</p>	<p>Leaves CSA program, including local match rates, as it exists today</p> <p>no impact</p>
<p>CSBs</p> <p>Estimated impact on City</p>	<p>unable to determine precise reductions, but they appear to be no less than \$90,000 nor more than \$175,000/yr.</p>	<p>restores 75% of proposed reduction</p> <p>unable to determine precise reductions, but they appear to be no less than \$120,000 nor more than \$200,000/yr.</p>	<p>restores many proposed reductions</p> <p>unable to determine precise reductions</p>

ITEM	HOUSE	SENATE	FINAL BUDGET
Homelessness grants	\$0 (does not restore any of the Governor's proposed cut)	Restores \$9.2 M (which the Governor's budget proposed eliminating)	Restored \$4.25 M in FY 03, and \$5 M in FY 04
Estimated impact on City	unable to determine	unable to determine	unable to determine
State Aid to Local Libraries	Reduce cut (proposal was 25%) to 7% for FY 03, and 8% for FY 04	Reduce cut (proposal was 25%) to 7% for FY 03, and 8% for FY 04	Reduce cut (proposal was 25%) to 7% for FY 03, and 8% for FY 04
Estimated impact on City	loss of \$ 18,793 in FY 03; \$21,478 in FY 04	loss of \$ 18,793 in FY 03; \$21,478 in FY 04	loss of \$ 18,793 in FY 03; \$21,478 in FY 04
Hydrilla	\$25,000 new, one-time grant	\$0	\$14,185 new, one-time grant
Fort Ward	\$50,000 new, one-time grant	\$0	\$28,371 new, one-time grant
Lloyd House	\$50,000 new, one-time grant	\$0	\$28,371 new, one-time grant
Regional Partnerships	\$0	\$4 M for workforce training (allocated competitively)	\$4 M for workforce training (allocated competitively)
Estimated impact on Northern Virginia	In FY 02, the Northern Virginia Regional Partnership received approximately \$2.27 million; this would be eliminated entirely under the House proposal.	In FY 02, the Northern Virginia Regional Partnership received approximately \$2.27 million; no one can estimate what the Partnership would receive under a competitive allocation program, but it would be substantially less.	In FY 02, the Northern Virginia Regional Partnership received approximately \$2.27 million; no one can estimate what the Partnership would receive under a competitive allocation program, but it would be substantially less.

ITEM	HOUSE	SENATE	FINAL BUDGET
"Re-op Pool" (hiring requirements for laid-off state employees)	Localities have certain obligations to hire laid-off "fully qualified" former State employees into state-supported positions	not addressed	deleted



City of Alexandria, Virginia

301 King Street, Suite 2300
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

11, 3/12/02 PF



Kerry J. Donley
Mayor

(703) 838-4500
Fax (703) 838-6433

March 15, 2002

The Honorable Mark R. Warner
State Capitol, 3rd Floor
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Governor Warner: *Mark*

I am writing on behalf of the Alexandria City Council to ask you to veto Senate Bill No. 593. This legislation, if enacted, will repeal an important component of a local government's ability to safely manage its facilities and protect the public. It will prohibit all localities from keeping guns and other firearms out of government-owned buildings. The Alexandria City Council strongly believes that the City is responsible for ensuring the safety of the public and City employees using these buildings. Decisions on these matters are best left to individual localities and their local officials, who can consider specific factors unique to their localities.

Furthermore, we do not believe that elected and appointed officials, who serve as custodians of the public's property, should be treated differently from private property owners. The Code of Virginia allows private property owners to prohibit the possession of firearms on their property (§ 18.2-308.0). Custodians of public property should also be able to regulate the possession of firearms on public property.

During last year's gubernatorial campaign, you suggested that the Commonwealth has sufficient laws regarding guns and other weapons, and that more are not needed. We hope that you will agree that the converse is also true – that there is no reason to repeal those laws and ordinances that have been duly adopted.

On behalf of the City of Alexandria, I strongly urge you to veto Senate Bill No. 593.

Sincerely yours,

Kerry Donley
Kerry Donley
Mayor, City of Alexandria

cc: The Honorable Members of City Council
Phil Sunderland, City Manager
Bernard Caton, Legislative Director

"Home Town of George Washington and Robert E. Lee"



City of Alexandria, Virginia

301 King Street, Suite 2300
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

11, 3/12/02 PF



Kerry J. Donley
Mayor

(703) 838-4500
Fax (703) 838-6433

March 19, 2002

The Honorable Mark R. Warner
State Capitol, 3rd Floor
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Governor Warner: *Mark*

I am writing on behalf of the Alexandria City Council to ask you to convene a Special Session of the General Assembly to consider a sales tax referendum for Northern Virginia. The referendum should allow voters to indicate whether they are willing to increase the sales tax in Northern Virginia to help pay for needed education and transportation projects.

We carefully followed the various sales tax bills considered during the past Session, and were very disappointed that no legislation was enacted to help Northern Virginia. We hope that you will rectify this by convening a Special Session (in conjunction with the Reconvened Session on April 17) and submitting legislation that will provide for a Northern Virginia referendum on increasing the sales tax for both education and transportation on November 5, 2002.

We feel strongly that our region needs a new revenue source to fund school construction as well as transit and highway projects. We also believe that a sales tax referendum will be successful only if it seeks new revenue for both these purposes.

While we prefer that the new Northern Virginia Transportation Authority determine specific projects to be funded with new sales tax revenue, we realize that no legislation is expected to pass without a project list within it. Accordingly, Alexandria City staff will work with your staff to help develop an appropriate project list.

Sincerely yours,

Kerry Donley
Kerry Donley
Mayor, City of Alexandria

cc: The Honorable Members of City Council
Philip Sunderland, City Manager
Bernard Caton, Legislative Director

"Home Town of George Washington and Robert E. Lee"

11
3-12-02

March 25, 2002

The Honorable Mark R. Warner
State Capitol, 3rd Floor
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Governor Warner:

We are writing as the chief elected officials of several Northern Virginia counties and cities to express our serious concerns and objections to Senate Bill No. 593, legislation passed by the 2002 General Assembly that would seriously impair the ability of local governments to safely manage their government facilities. Please veto this legislation.

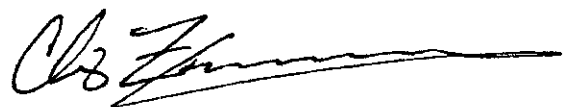
Senate Bill No. 593 would prohibit all localities from taking any action to prohibit the public from carrying guns and other firearms into government-owned buildings. As custodians of these public buildings, we have a responsibility to do everything within our power to ensure the safety of the public and the government employees using these buildings. In some cases, this may include restrictions on guns and firearms. Decisions on these matters are best left to local officials, who can consider specific factors unique to their localities and the potential for problems.

Private property owners are entitled by the Code of Virginia to ban the possession of firearms on their property (§ 18.2-308.0), and we believe that local elected officials, as custodians of the public's property, should have these same rights.

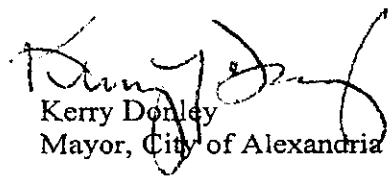
In the past, you have expressed your belief that the Commonwealth has sufficient laws regarding guns and other weapons, and that more are not needed. We respect your opinion in this regard. At the same time, there is no reason to proceed in the opposite direction and limit the ability of public property owners to adopt reasonable policies to protect everyone using public facilities.

Again, we strongly urge you to veto Senate Bill No. 593.

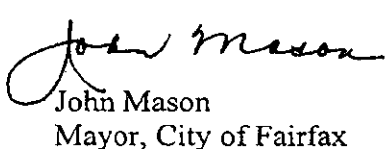
Sincerely yours,



Chris Zimmerman
Chair, Arlington County Board



Kerry Donley
Mayor, City of Alexandria




John Mason
Mayor, City of Fairfax

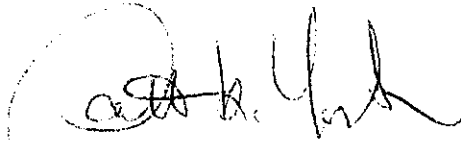


Kate Hanley
Chairman, Fairfax County Board

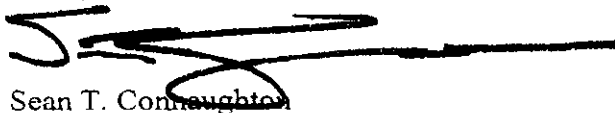
The Honorable Mark R. Warner
March 25, 2002
Page 2



Daniel E. Gardner
Mayor, City of Falls Church



Scott K. York
Chairman, Loudoun County Board of Supervisors



Sean T. Connaughton
Chairman, Prince William County Board of Supervisors